



MASSACHUSETTS 01720

ACTON HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Acton Historical Commission Meeting Minutes – May 11, 2011 7:30 p.m., Acton Town Hall, Rm. 126

AHC Members Present: Bill Klauer, vice-chair (BK), Anita Dodson, (AD), Victoria Beyer (VB), Bill Dickinson (BD), Jim Chiarelli (JC), Brad Maxwell (BM)

- 1. BK called the meeting to order. First, the Commission heard from Richard O'Brien, head of the Acton Water District. The Water District is looking for someone to help write about its history, for its upcoming centennial. JC will send suggestions of local historians who could perform the work. BK will review what records he has that could be helpful, and AD suggested reviewing the Historical Society records as well.
- 2. Minutes from the Commission's April 2011 meeting were reviewed and approved.
- 3. Discussion then turned to 6 Piper Road. BK reported that MHC declared the house ineligible for the preservation restriction proposed by the Board of Selectmen, because the structure was determined not to be eligible for National Register listing, based on the available information. VB noted that the restricted status was voted on at Town Meeting, and that it would be protected by Cultural Resource List ("CRL") status in any event.
- 4. Next, the Commission reviewed the demolition application for the garage at 170 Main Street. BM shared the background communications and pictures received from the applicant. BK recalled that the garage was built in the 1960s, and is not original to the house. BD noted that the structure exhibited no structural value worth preserving. The Commission voted unanimously to approve the demolition application. BK will write a letter to the Building Department confirming the vote, and send a copy to the applicant.
- 5. VB next discussed the CPC's request to visit the Asa Parlin House, and will schedule the visit with Dean Charter. BD may also attend to explain the vision for the restoration, and VB will coordinate the visit with the Historic District Commission as well.
- 6. The Commission next considered the Wheeler Farm stairway Eagle Scout project for William Long. JC discussed the project with Ed Bell from the Massachusetts Historical Commission. JC noted that a Project Notification Form could be filed, if William Long wished to seek formal approval, but that the project could go forward without the Form because MHC views the property as a previously disturbed resource. JC will discuss the options with Kimberley

Connors-Hughes, who is the archaeologist for the Trail Through Time project, including Wheeler Farm.

- 7. Next, JC reported on upcoming meetings for the Caouette-Simeone Farmland, and will review the progress at the Commission's next meeting.
- 8. BD then related the status of Diane Sergeij's (DS) work on the CRL updates, and expects new updates for review by the end of next month. BK will look at potentially adding 6 Piper Road to the updates/forms that DS is preparing.
- 9. The Commission next discussed the status of the house located at 153 Summer Street. At present, the Building Department and the property owners have been informed of the Commission's vote to add the structure to the CRL. At present, the owners cannot apply for a demolition permit yet because the utilities are not turned off. The Commission will be having DS develop a survey form for the property as part of the work remaining under her existing contract.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brad Maxwell, clerk

Cc: Town Clerk
Town Manager
Town Library
Historic District Commission